UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/538,663	03/30/2000	Bjorn Markus Jakobsson	Jakobsson 22-2	8288

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3624	

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *30 March 2000*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This application has been reviewed. Original claims 1-16 are pending. The rejections

cited are as stated below:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Drummond et al.

(United States Patent Number 6,691,156 B1).

Claim 1.   Drummond et al. disclose a method for preventing receipt by receivers of

unwanted electronic mail messages (email) sent by senders in a communication system,

comprising the steps of:

determining whether a particular sender is a registered sender of email to the

particular receiver, wherein the particular sender becomes a registered sender by satisfying a

requirement which will allow the particular sender to become a registered sender of email to the

particular receiver (abstract; fig. 3 and associated text);

weeding out at a gateway of the communication system all email directed to a

particular receiver that originates from senders that are determined not to be registered senders to

the particular receiver (abstract; fig. 3 and associated text); and

passing to the particular receiver all email directed to the particular receiver and that

originates from senders determined to be registered senders of email to the particular receiver

(abstract; fig. 3 and associated text).

Claim 2.   Drummond et al. disclose the method of claim 1, wherein said determining step

comprises the steps of:

setting up by the particular sender a cookie which indicates to the particular receiver

whether the particular sender has satisfied the requirement to allow the particular sender to

become a registered sender to the particular receiver (figs. 2-4 and associated text);

setting up an address related to an address associated with the particular receiver which

will inform the particular sender that the particular receiver desires that the particular sender be

able to send email to the particular receiver (figs. 2-4 and associated text); and

setting up by the particular receiver a key which is forwarded to the particular

sender by the particular receiver to inform the particular sender that the particular sender is

authorized to send email to the particular receiver and is now a registered sender and for use by

the particular sender whenever the particular sender wishes to send email to the particular

receiver (figs. 2-4 and associated text).

Claim 3.   Drummond et al. disclose the method recited in claim 2, wherein said step of

setting up the address comprises generating a pseudorandom function with a keyed hash function

using an input number comprising a unique serial number for use in generating an identifier for

email between the particular sender to the particular receiver (col. 5, lines 15-17).

Claim 4.   Drummond et al. disclose the method recited in claim 2, wherein said step of

setting up an encrypted address comprises sending email from the particular receiver to the

particular sender using public key encryption (col. 5, lines 7-26).

Claim 5.   Drummond et al. disclose the method recited in claim 2, wherein said

determining step further comprises sending to the particular user by the particular receiver, an

encrypted key wherein the encrypted key is a member of a set of encrypted keys (figs. 2-4 and

associated text).

Claim 6.   Drummond et al. disclose the method recited in claim 5, further comprising the

step of storing the encrypted key by the particular sender in a table of encrypted keys for use by

the particular sender whenever the particular sender desires to send email to the particular

receiver (figs. 2-4 and associated text).

Claim 7.   Drummond et al. disclose the method recited in claim 1, wherein said weeding

out step comprises:

        examining a message authentication code (MAC) by the particular receiver and

determining whether the examined MAC is a valid MAC (figs. 2-3 and associated text); and

        rejecting the email sent by the particular sender if the MAC is determined not to be a

valid MAC (figs. 2-3 and associated text).

Claim 8.   Drummond et al. disclose the method of claim 7, wherein said step of MAC

determining comprises comparing the MAC against a value determined in said sender

determining step and, if the value and the determined MAC are the same, accepting by the

particular receiver the email from the sender (figs. 2-3 and associated text).

Claim 9.   Drummond et al. disclose the method recited in claim 7, wherein said MAC

determining step comprises comparing the MAC to an available header in an address of the

particular receiver, in the received email message, whereby the MAC is not a valid MAC if the

MAC and the header are not identical (figs. 2-3 and associated text).

Claim 10.   Drummond et al. disclose a server method for preventing receipt by receivers of

unwanted electronic messages (email) sent by senders in a communication system, comprising:

       a determining module for determining whether a particular sender is a registered sender

of email to the particular receiver, wherein the particular sender becomes a registered sender by

satisfying a requirement which will allow the particular sender to become a registered particular

receiver and that originates from senders determined to be registered senders of email to the

sender of email to the particular receiver (abstract; fig. 3 and associated text);

       a weeding out module for weeding out at a gateway of the communication system all

email directed to a particular receiver that originates from senders that are determined not to be

registered senders to the particular receiver (abstract; fig. 3 and associated text); and

       a passing module for passing to the particular receiver all email directed to the particular

receiver and that originates from senders determined to be registered senders of email to the

particular receiver (abstract; fig. 3 and associated text).

Claim 11.   Drummond et al. disclose the server recited in claim 10, wherein said

determining module further comprises a generator for generating a pseudorandom function with

a keyed hash function using an input number comprising a unique serial number for use in

generating an identifier for email between the particular sender to the particular receiver (figs. 2-

4 and associated text).

Claim 12.   Drummond et al. disclose the server recited in claim 11, wherein said

determining module sets up an encrypted address for sending email from the particular receiver

to the particular sender using public key encryption (figs. 2-4 and associated text).

Claim 13.   Drummond et al. disclose the server recited in claim 13, wherein said

determining module sends to the particular user by the particular receiver, an encrypted key

wherein the encrypted key is a member of a set of encrypted keys (figs. 2-4 and associated text).

Claim 14.   Drummond et al. disclose the server recited in claim 13, wherein said weeding

out module examines a message authentication code (MAC) by the particular receiver and

determines whether the examined MAC is a valid MAC, and rejects the email sent by the

particular sender if the MAC is determined not to be a valid MAC (fig. 3 and associated text).

Claim 15.   Drummond et al. disclose the method of claim 14, wherein said weeding out

module compares the MAC against a value, and if the value and the determined MAC are the

same, accepts by the particular receiver the email from the sender (fig. 3 and associated text).

Claim 16.   Drummond et al. disclose the method recited in claim 15, wherein the weeding

out module compares the MAC to an available header in an address of the particular receiver, in

the received email message, whereby the MAC is not a valid MAC if the MAC and the header

are not identical (fig. 3 and associated text).

Conclusion

3.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure. USPN 6,249,805 B1, USPN 6,421,709 B1, USPN 6,697,842 B1, USPN 6,687,740

B1, USPN 6694436 B1 and JP02000201168A are cited of interest.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sally Shih whose telephone number is 703-305-8550. The examiner can normally be reached on Flexible Schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on 703-308-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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RICHARD WEISBERGER
PRIMARY EXAMINER